

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

3:15 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second floor, City Council
Chambers

Disability Issues, Commission on

I ROLL CALL

Present 9 - Larry Keeler, Alison Stroud, Westley Resendes, Larry Leon Davis, Anna Ercoli-Schnitzer, Zachary Damon, Kirk Westphal, Albert Blixt, and Rebecca Benedict

Absent 2 - Lloyd Shelton, and Sally Hart Petersen

a Welcome New Commissioners: Rebecca Benedict and Jennifer Martin

Z. Damon extended a welcome to Rebecca Benedict and asked her to introduce herself.

II APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Z. Damon suggested that the agenda be amended to take Jennifer Martin's name out of the welcome to new commissioners. She has not yet been approved by City Council.

Z. Damon motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by K. Westphal. On a voice vote, all commissioners approved the agenda as amended.

III APPROVAL OF APRIL 20 MEETING MINUTES

L. Keeler moved to approve the April 20 Meeting Minutes, seconded by A. Stroud. All approved on a voice vote.

Approved

16-0775 Ann Arbor Commission on Disability Issues, April 20, 2016, Draft Meeting Minutes

IV PRESENTATIONS

a Ira Lax, Washtenaw Library for the Blind and Physically Disabled

V PUBLIC COMMENTS - LIMITED TO EIGHT MINUTES

VI OLD BUSINESS

a City Personnel Report - Heather Koch

b Chair Report - Zach Damon, Vice Chair

Z. Damon, vice-chair, provided Chair report, as Sally is not present at the meeting. Z. Damon welcomed new commissioner, Rebecca Benedict.

c Community Engagement Committee - Zach Damon

Next Community Engagement Meeting is on Thursday, May 26, at 5:30 in the Council

Workroom on the 2nd Floor of City Hall.

Ann Arbor Police Chief Jim Baird will be coming to the June Commission meeting to present the status of the Disability Awareness Training within the department. He will also be providing an update on the distribution of the Disability Awareness Cards.

1. Refurbish Sensory Garden on Bloomsday, May 21st, 8:30 am until Noon*

Z. Damon asked for commissioners to volunteer at the Bloomsday Event. L. Keeler currently is the only one signed up.

2. Update on Ann Arbor Inclusive

Z. Damon reported that the show has been moving forward quite well. Austin Sheperd was just a guest, from the WISD LEO club and John Krinke who is the head of the Ann Arbor Lions Club was also there. Z. Damon is still committed to pushing closed captioning for this show.

d Partners in Access Committee - West Resendes and Alison Stroud

A. Stroud mentioned that next PIA meeting is at 6:00 pm on May 23 in Basement Conference Room of City Hall. A presenter, Mark Finnigan, will be there to give information about accessibility of crosswalks.

The letter to the AAATA was successful, and a few board members are very interested to talk to the Commission about best practices. The meeting with the board members will hopefully be discussed at the next commission meeting.

W. Resendes gave an update on the Closed Captioning Ordinance. He was invited to attend the Cable Commission meeting two weeks ago, so they could learn more about the Closed Captioning Ordinance. He was checking their budget for Closed Captioning, and he shared that there will be captioning starting at City Council meetings starting this Fall. He has asked for opinions on other boards or commissions of the City that should be closed captioned so he can report back to the Cable Commission. Z. Damon recommended that all city broadcasts should be captioned. He would like to discuss further with W. Resendes about captioning more programs - especially the Ann Arbor Inclusive show. The Cable Commission supported the Ordinance.

K. Westphal spoke with Chris Frost in the City Attorney's office, who believes that a draft of the Ordinance will be sent to the Commission before the next meeting.

e Recruiting Activity - Larry Keeler

The Commission has a new member, Rebecca Benedict. It appears that there is another application being reviewed right now. Please contact the Commission or the Mayor's office for an application if you are interested in joining the Commission.

K. Westphal spoke with the Attorney's office and Sally Petersen about the bylaws of the Commission and the recruiting needs of the Commission. Z. Damon would like to present this issue to Sally to discuss with the Commission. L. Keeler would like to set a meeting up to discuss this with the Recruiting sub-committee.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Schnitzer would like to discuss the Air Ride Michigan Flyer. It is an excellent and reasonable mode of transportation. Currently there is a "difference of opinion" between the Metro Airport and the Air Ride Michigan Flyer. She discussed her recent experiences with using the flyer system.

L. Keeler announced that the National Federation for the Blind is trying to go through a revitalization process to reorganize. There will be a meeting on June 4 to discuss this.

VIII NEW BUSINESS

a University of Michigan Council for Disability Concerns May Meeting Updates and Minutes*

IX ADJOURNMENT

**Indicates additional information in this packet*

Z. Damon adjourned the meeting at 4:05 pm.

Minutes submitted by Heather Koch, Human Resources

Captioning services provided by ScreenLine, Sue Deer Hall

Live Video Streaming provided by CTN

Sign Language Interpreting provided by University Translators, with Tammy Carmichael and Cathy Cherico interpreting.